

"The Oaks"
Abraham Ricks Home, 2 mi.
W. Leighton, 2 mi. S. off
Wheeler H-Way, Alabama
Colbert Co.

HABS No. ALA-362

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT NO.16

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer
Auburn, Alabama

"THE OAKS" ABRAHAM H. RICKS HOME.
Leighton, Colbert County, Alabama.
2 MILES W.

Ownership:

Present Owner: Ricks Estate.

Previous Owners: David Moore.
Abraham H. Ricks.

Date of Erection: Original approximately 1826.
Additions & remodelling 1830 - 1835.

Architect: Unknown.

Builder: ~~Dale~~. Dial.

Present Condition: Fair.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Two story frame; wood siding; one story porch; interior very interesting architecturally.

Other Existing Records:

See: Saunders History & Leftwicks.

"ONE HUNDRED YEARS IN COLBERT COUNTY"

ALA- 362
Page 2.

Additional Data: The Abraham Ricks house known as "The Oaks" was built in 1835, nine miles south east of Tuscumbia, near Spring Valley. Following State highway 20, east from Tuscumbia seven miles, then south on Ricks Lane two miles, one reaches it.

The estate originally consisted of 10,000 acres and was operated with 300 slaves. Seven years were required to complete the house, constructed mainly from timber grown on the place.

The Grecian style of architecture was used, large hand carved columns supporting the porch, stairway bannisters and window casements are beautifully carved. The house contains many antiques, little change having been made since the War Between the States.

At his death Mr. Ricks was buried ^{on nearby} ~~at~~ Lagrange ^{Mountain} Georgia, and his grave marked by a monument of Italian marble. A sculptor from Italy waited for the arrival of the blocks of marble from the Carrara quarries, in the little grave-yard the rough blocks of marble were transformed by the sculptor into the monument that remains.

Source of Material: Mrs. L. T. McDonald.
Tuscumbia, Alabama.
A. H. Ricks Jr.,
Leighton, Alabama.

Compiled by: Katherine Floyd.
Auburn, Alabama.
Approved: E. Walter Burkhardt, A. P. I.
Auburn, Alabama.
Date: 5-18-1937.